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Patient Care News: September 2007

St. Cloud Hospital

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St. Cloud Hospital, St. Cloud, MN

Accreditation Received!

St. Cloud Hospital Decentralized Laboratories sites, which include Recovery Plus Outpatient Alcohol & Drug Treatment Services and Journey Home, recently received accreditation by The Joint Commission.

The Joint Commission is an independent, not-for-profit organization, established more than 50 years ago. Joint Commission is governed by a board that includes physicians, nurses, and consumers. Joint Commission sets the standards by which health care quality is measured in America and around the world. Their purpose is to assist health care organizations to continuously improve the safety and quality of care provided to the public

The Joint Commission evaluates and accredits more than 15,000 health care organizations and programs in the United States. The Joint Commission's state-of-the-art standards focus on patient safety and quality of care. Organizations voluntarily pursue accreditation.

Submitted by:
Andra Van Kempen-Middlestaedt
Communications Specialist



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Coborn Cancer Center Offers: Five-Day Internal Radiation Therapy System for Breast Cancer

Coborn Cancer Center is the first in the area to offer patients with breast cancer the MammoSite® 5-Day Targeted Radiation Therapy. MammoSite, used to treat more than 32,000 women to date, internally delivers radiation directly to the tissue surrounding the original tumor, where recurrence is most likely, minimizing radiation exposure to healthy tissue and reduces the length of treatment from five to seven weeks to one to five days.

In a clinical study involving 43 women, no recurrences of cancer were experienced five years after treatment with MammoSite.

Submitted by:
Chris Nelson
CentraCare Health System



Christmas is Coming! Christmas is Coming! Mark Your Calendars!

Believe it or not, it's getting to be that time of the year again. Summer has barely come to a close and the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years holiday schedules are fast approaching. We want to allow you adequate time to look at your calendars to make requests regarding the holidays so please keep in mind the following important dates:

Schedule Dates	Requests Due	Schedule Posted
November 18- December 15 (Thanksgiving November 22)	Monday, October 8	Monday, November 5
December 16- January 12 (Christmas and New Years)	Monday, November 5	Monday, December 3



*In order to determine the Thanksgiving, Christmas and New Years holiday rotations, some areas may require the request due dates for both schedules on the same date, (refer to unit guidelines or ask your scheduling associate for further details) however, **schedules will be posted separately.** When making requests, please keep in mind for scheduling purposes that if you are scheduled to work the Christmas holiday, you will be scheduled to work **both** Christmas Eve and Christmas Day. If you are scheduled to work the New Years holiday you will be scheduled to work **both** New Years Eve and New Years Day. (Please refer to your unit specific guidelines for exceptions.)

EXTRA, EXTRA, READ ALL ABOUT IT: First Choice PTO Planners Coming Soon to a Unit Near You!

Great News! The Scheduling Associates recently brought forward a recommendation to move up the posting date of the Annual First Choice PTO Planners, which Resource Management has approved. We believe that moving up this posting date will allow staff to be able to plan more in advance for their "mid-winter/spring vacations" by getting their approvals a month earlier than our current process. This change will also allow us to move the added workload off the Scheduling Associates so that it does not coincide with the posting of the Christmas and New Years schedules. With moving up the posting dates we will also better align to a calendar year posting (mid-January to mid-January schedule dates), however, since our previous calendars run through February 9, 2008 we will start the first choice process with the February 10, 2008 date and run them through January 10, 2009.

The timeline process for this year will be as follows:

- PTO Planners will be posted on the units **on or before Friday, September 14th** and will remain posted on the units until Friday, October 12 for staff to make their first choice requests.
- Approvals and/or denials will be sent out by Monday, November 5th. **Do not send additional PTO requests until Tuesday, November 6th. These additional PTO requests will be approved on a "first-come, first-served" basis.**
- Requests received after October 12th will be considered late and will not be processed until all other requests received on time have been addressed.

We hope you are pleased with this change. If you have any questions regarding these dates, please contact your unit scheduler for more information.



Submitted by:
Terri Krause, Coordinator
Patient Care Support

Need EMR Help? Just Say 'Please'!

Your colleagues who are supporting the Epic electronic medical record (EMR) implementation want to answer your questions and address your concerns. They ask that you call them when a question or problem arises – rather than waiting until you are frustrated, tense or angry.

Change can be stressful and this is change on a very large scale. In an effort to help, the hospital is hiring two “optimization nurses” who will float throughout the house, responding to calls for EMR help. They are available to help any physician or staff member.



The EMR team also will be offering “circle back” training in which they will work with staff and physicians to undo any bad habits that may have been established during implementation.

Submitted by:
Jeanine Nistler
Director of Communications

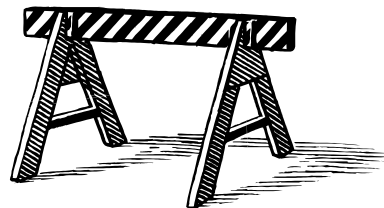
Don't Let EMR Get Between You and Your Patient

The Patient Satisfaction Committee urges you to follow these tips:

- As you enter data into the electronic medical record (EMR) while in a patient's room, be sure to let the patient know what you are doing and why.
- Look up from the computer and make frequent eye contact.
- When admitting a patient, use a wireless laptop whenever possible and sit on a chair at the bedside.

In other words, take steps to make sure the computer is a tool, not a barrier in providing patient care.

Submitted by:
Jeanine Nistler
Director of Communications



Deactivating JRS E-mail

The Patient Care Information Systems Committee (PCIS) has approved the deactivation of all JRS e-mail effective September 25, 2007. Effective immediately, no new staff will be set up with JRS e-mail. Staff will now be using Outlook and/or OWA for all of their CentraCare e-mail communications.

The Electronic Mail System policy is available on CentraNet for your review. If you have any questions regarding how e-mail should be utilized within your department, please contact your director. Be sure to share this communication with your co-workers.

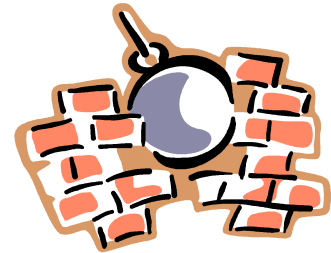
Lisa Mullen, RN
Principal Trainer Epic Inpatient

Upcoming 'Whitney Without Walls' Programs

Whitney Without Walls presents "*Cancer Survivorship*" by Mary Navara (Coordinator for the new Cancer Survivorship Network at the Coborn Cancer Center) at 2:00 p.m. on Tuesday, August 28th, at Benet Place South, 1975 15th Ave. SE. This is an opportunity to learn about improving the quality of life for cancer patients and the lives of family members and caregivers.

At 2:00 p.m. Tuesday, September 11th, Whitney Without Walls presents "*Remember When...*", by Sandy Manderfield at Benet Place South. Manderfield, from Senior Helping Hands, will discuss the art of remembering.

These presentations are free and open to the public. Whitney Without Walls is an outreach activity of the Whitney Senior Center with the cooperation of St. Benedict's Senior Community and grant funded through CentraCare Health Foundation.



Please use the entrance to the left of the main entry. For more information, contact Dave Simondet at (320) 309-3747 or myka@charter.net.

Submitted by:
Cheri Tollefson Lehse
Director of Marketing and Communications

Upcoming Developmental Programs: Educational and Professional

October 2007

25/26 Basic Electrocardiology, 8:00 a.m.-3:00 p.m., Skyview Conference Room,
 St. Cloud Hospital

November 2007

5/6 Trauma Nursing Core Course, SCH Conference Center, 7:30 am – 5:30 pm
13 Basic Preceptor Class, Fireside Room, 8:20 am – 1:30 pm
13/14 ONS Cancer Chemotherapy Course, 8:00 am – 4:30 pm both days, Hughes/Mathews
 Room, CentraCare Health Plaza
26/27 Basic Electrocardiology, 8:00 am – 3:00 pm, Leonard Street & Deinard Room,
 CentraCare Health Plaza

December 2007

20/21 Basic Electrocardiology, 8:00 a.m. 00 p.m., Heart Center Conference Room,
 St. Cloud Hospital

Clinical Ladder

Congratulations to the following individuals for achieving and/or maintaining their Level III Clinical Ladder status!

Level III

Linda Donabauer, RN **Endo**

- Preceptor
- Set up Booth for Women's 101
- Charging Guidelines Resource for Endo
- JCAHO Prep Task Force

Jason Foos, RN **ETC**

- Preceptor
- Certified Emergency Room Nurse
- ACLS Instructor
- Nurse Practice Committee Member

JoAnn Olson, RN **Rehab**

- Preceptor
- Gerontology National Certification
- Chair of Rehab Practice Committee
- Clinical Ladder Committee

Amy Trutwin, RN **OR**

- Epic Superuser
- Preceptor
- Participated in Relay for Life
- Updates Procedure Cards

Carol Robinson, RN **Endo**

- Epic Superuser
- SGNA Member
- Preceptor
- SME for Endo

Carol Ziegler, RN **Peds Short Stay**

- PI Committee Member'
- Preceptor
- Child Friendly Care Poster
- Infection Control Committee

Renee Chapa, RN **Imaging**

- SME in Imaging
- ARNA Member
- Member of Radiology Patient Care Council
- Clinical Ladder Committee Member

Kathleen Henderson, RN **OR**

- Epic Superuser
- Preceptor
- ROE Committee
- CNOR and Orthopedic Nurse Certification

Kelsey Thompson, RN **KDU**

- Presented Poster on Pediatric Dialysis
- Preceptor
- Chair of Staff Support Committee
- PI Committee Member

Karen Chalich, RN **KDIP**

- Epic Superuser
- ANNA Member
- Aquapheresis Education Inservices
- Therapeutic Plasma Exchange Inservice

Cindy Brown, RN **Telemetry**

- Reorganized Omnicells on Units
- Preceptor
- Temporary Pacemaker Skill-station

